

From: Sen. Wallace F. Bennett  
March 15, 1961

ship bell

WASHINGTON, March 15---Sen. Wallace F. Bennett (R-Utah) said today that the Navy has agreed to permit the State of Utah to preserve and display the 2000-lb. bell from the battleship UTAH, which was sunk at Pearl Harbor.

Sen. Bennett, who has been working for several months to complete negotiations for transfer of the bell to state custody, said the bell will be transferred to the state on an indefinite loan basis, in accordance with Navy policy.

The UTAH was sunk by a torpedo in Pearl Harbor in the Japanese attack of Dec. 7, 1941. It was in active Naval service for more than 30 years. The ship's bell has been on the quarterdeck of the Naval Station at Pearl Harbor for a number of years, according to the Utah senator.

Sen. Bennett said that Capt. C. F. Palmer, commanding officer of the Clearfield Naval Supply Depot, will arrange a ceremony in the near future, at which time the bell will be presented to the state. Custodian of the bell for the state will be A. R. Mortensen, director of the Utah State Historical Society.

Mr. Mortensen has made preliminary plans to have the UTAH'S bell placed on the Capitol Grounds or in front of the Utah State Historical Society offices at 603 East South Temple, formerly the governor's mansion.

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